CLEAN SET OF CLAIMS

1. (Twice amended) A method of ablating or killing normal, benign hyperplastic, and cancerous prostate epithelial cells comprising:

providing an isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof which binds to an extracellular domain of prostate specific membrane antigen present as an integral membrane protein in a living cell, and

contacting said cells with the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof under conditions effective to permit both binding of the isolated antibody of antigen binding portion thereof to the extracellular domain of the prostate specific membrane antigen and ablating or killing of said cells.

2 ~~3.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof is internalized with the prostate specific membrane antigen.

3 ~~4.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said contacting is carried out in a living mammal and comprises:

administering the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof to the mammal under conditions effective to permit both binding of the biological agent to the extracellular domain of the prostate specific membrane antigen and killing of said cells.

4 ~~5.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof is internalized with the prostate specific membrane antigen.

5 ~~6.~~ A method according to claim 4, wherein said administering is carried out orally, parenterally, subcutaneously, intravenously, intramuscularly, intraperitoneally, by intranasal instillation, by intracavitory or intravesical instillation, intraocularly, intraarterially, intralesionally, or by application to the mucous membranes.

B7 ~~6 7.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of a monoclonal antibody and a polyclonal antibody.

7 ~~8.~~ A method according to claim 7, wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of an E99, a J415, a J533, and a J591 monoclonal antibody.

8 ~~9.~~ A method according to claim 7, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody produced by a hybridoma cell line having an ATCC Accession Number selected from the group consisting of HB-12101, HB-12109, HB-12127, and HB-12126.

B8 9 ~~10.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein an antigen binding portion of an antibody is used in carrying out said method, the binding portion being selected from the group consisting of an Fab fragment, an F(ab')2 fragment, and an Fv fragment.

B9 10 ~~12.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof is bound to a substance effective to kill or ablate said cells upon binding of the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof to the extracellular domain of the prostate specific membrane antigen of said cells.

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11 ~~13~~. A method according to claim 12, wherein the substance effective to kill said cells is a cytotoxic drug.

12 ~~14~~. A method according to claim 13, wherein the cytotoxic drug is selected from the group consisting of therapeutic drug, a compound emitting radiation, molecules of plant, fungal, or bacterial origin, biological proteins, and mixtures thereof.

13 ~~15~~. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the antibody is effective to initiate an endogenous host immune function.

14 ~~16~~. A method according to claim 13, wherein the endogenous host immune function is complement-mediated cellular cytotoxicity.

15 ~~17~~. A method according to claim 13, wherein the endogenous host immune function is antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity.

16 ~~18~~. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof is in a composition further comprising a physiologically acceptable carrier, excipient, or stabilizer.

17 ~~19~~. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen binding portion thereof is in a composition further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or stabilizer.